

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A pallet board removing assembly comprising:

a frame having rollers forming a bed;

a pair of jaws extending from said frame such that said jaws are suspended above said bed, a lower jaw of said pair of jaws being insertable into an end of a pallet such that a distal end portion of said lower jaw is alignable with a selectable board of the pallet;

said distal end portion of said lower jaw forming a board removal portion of said lower jaw;

a distal end of an upper jaw of said pair of jaws forming a clamping portion positioned at an end of said upper jaw, said clamping portion being positioned staggered from said board removal portion of said lower jaw whereby said upper jaw clamps the pallet against the bed and said lower jaw engages and removes a board from the pallet upon closing of said pair of jaws; and

actuating means coupled to said jaws for moving said jaws about a pivot point to close said jaws.

2. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

a nail press assembly coupled to said frame, said nail press assembly being adapted for driving nail stubble into stringers of the pallet.

3. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 2, further comprising:

said nail press assembly having bottom bar and an upper panel aligned with each other; and

said bottom bar and said upper panel being movable to clamp the pallet between said bottom bar and said upper panel such that said upper panel is adapted to drive nail stubble into the stringers of the pallet.

4. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 1 wherein said actuating means is hydraulic.

5. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 4, further comprising:

a control mechanism, said control mechanism being positioned adjacent to an end of said bed opposite said jaws for facilitating use of said jaws by a user standing at said end of said bed opposite said jaws.

6. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 1 wherein said rollers are oriented to move the pallet along a longitudinal axis of said bed.

7. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

said lower jaw including a plate having a slot for receiving a central stringer board of the pallet, said slot defining a pair of segments for engaging the board being removed on each side of a central stringer board.

8. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 7, further comprising:

each of said segments having a length less than a distance between adjacently positioned stringer boards of the pallet.

9. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 7, further comprising:

each of said segments having a length greater than about 90% of said distance between said adjacently positioned stringer boards of the pallet.

10. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 8, further comprising:

each of said segments having a length greater than about 90% of said distance between said adjacently positioned stringer boards of the pallet.

11. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

said upper jaw having a length greater than said lower jaw.

12. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 11, further comprising:

a board cushioning assembly coupled to said upper jaw such that said board cushioning assembly is aligned with said board removal portion of said lower jaw.

13. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 12, further comprising:

said board cushioning assembly having a biased panel positioned such that a board being removed from the pallet is urged

into said biased panel compressing said board cushioning assembly to stabilize the board being removed during removal.

14. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 3, further comprising:

said bottom bar being recessed into said bed, said bottom bar being movable upwardly from said recessed position to engage a bottom of the pallet whereby movement of the pallet along said bed is restricted.

15. The pallet board removing assembly of claim 14, further comprising:

said top panel being movable downwardly towards said bottom bar such that said top panel engages a top of said pallet after said bottom bar has engaged a bottom of the pallet.

16. A pallet board removing assembly comprising:

a frame having rollers forming a bed;

a pair of jaws extending from said frame such that said jaws are suspended above said bed, a lower jaw of said pair of jaws being insertable into an end of a pallet such that a distal end portion of said lower jaw is alignable with a selectable board of the pallet;

said distal end portion of said lower jaw forming a board removal portion of said lower jaw;

a distal end of an upper jaw of said pair of jaws forming a clamping portion positioned at an end of said upper jaw, said clamping portion being positioned staggered from said board removal portion of said lower jaw whereby said upper jaw clamps

the pallet against the bed and said lower jaw engages and removes a board from the pallet upon closing of said pair of jaws;

actuating means coupled to said jaws for moving said jaws about a pivot point to close said jaws;

a nail press assembly coupled to said frame, said nail press assembly being adapted for driving nail stubble into stringers of the pallet;

said nail press assembly having bottom bar and an upper panel aligned with each other;

said bottom bar and said upper panel being movable to clamp the pallet between said bottom bar and said upper panel such that said upper panel is adapted to drive nail stubble into the stringers of the pallet;

wherein said actuating means is hydraulic;

a control mechanism, said control mechanism being positioned adjacent to an end of said bed opposite said jaws for facilitating use of said jaws by a user standing at said end of said bed opposite said jaws;

wherein said rollers are oriented to move the pallet along a longitudinal axis of said bed;

said lower jaw including a plate having a slot for receiving a central stringer board of the pallet, said slot defining a pair of segments for engaging the board being removed on each side of a central stringer board;

each of said segments having a length less than a distance between adjacently positioned stringer boards of the pallet;

each of said segments having a length greater than about 90% of said distance between said adjacently positioned stringer boards of the pallet;

said upper jaw having a length greater than said lower jaw;

a board cushioning assembly coupled to said upper jaw such that said board cushioning assembly is aligned with said board removal portion of said lower jaw;

said board cushioning assembly having a biased panel positioned such that a board being removed from the pallet is urged into said biased panel compressing said board cushioning assembly to stabilize the board being removed during removal;

said bottom bar being recessed into said bed, said bottom bar being movable upwardly from said recessed position to engage a bottom of the pallet whereby movement of the pallet along said bed is restricted; and

said top panel being movable downwardly towards said bottom bar such that said top panel engages a top of said pallet after said bottom bar has engaged a bottom of the pallet.